

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OIC-04 ACDA-19 AEC-11 OMB-01

NEA-11 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SCI-06 EB-11 DRC-01 NIC-01 /188 W

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R 131800Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3982

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURGH

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 919

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: EC-NINE POSITION ON FOLLOW-ON

REF: A. STATE 28081

B. GENEVA 409 (NOTAL)

1. WE CONTINUE TO REGARD EC-NINE PAPER ON FOLLOW-ON
AS A TOUGH OPENING POSITION FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH
THE NINE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A VERIETY OF PRESSURES FOR
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COMPROMISE WITH EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR A CONSULTATIVE

COMMITTEE. AS SUMMARIZED REF (B), THESE PRESSURES INCLUDE PRACTICAL NEED WHICH MAY BE FELT FOR "COORDINATION" OF ACTIVITIES OF TECHNICAL FOLLOW-ON, AS WELL AS WESTERN DESIRES TO CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR CONCRETE MEASURES WHICH CSCE IS UNLIKELY TO ACHIEVE, TO SATISFY NEED FELT BY NEUTRALS AND ROMANIA FOR A CONTINUING FORUM, AND TO OBTAIN A SURVEILLANCE MECHANISM FOR BASKET III AGREEMENTS.

2. AS WE UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION*, PRESENT POSITION OF THE NINE REPRESENTS LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR, AND THEREFORE MOST CONSERVATIVE POSITION, ON WHICH THEY CAN NOW AGREE. SOME EC COUNTRIES, SUCH AS FRG, ALREADY RECOGNIZE THAT SOME FORM OF GENERAL ACTIVITY WILL BE REQUIRED, AND INDEED MAY BE DESIRABLE, AT END OF CSCE, AND THAT "INTERIM PERIOD" CONCEPT ALONE DOES NOT RESPOND TO POLITICAL REALITIES. THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE NINE--FRANCE, THE NETHERLANDS, AND PERHAPS ITALY, WILL BE UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO REVISE THEIR THINKING ON FOLLOW-ON WHEN NEGOTIATIONS FOCUS ON THIS ISSUE.

3. WE BELIEVE THE NINE'S PAPER IS ACCEPTABLE AS AN OPENING POSITION. BUT IN TERMS OF THE NEGOTIATING SITUATION, IT IS NOT VERY REALISTIC, AND WE WOULD EXPECT THAT, ONCE CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS OF FOLLOW-ON BEGIN, PRESSURES TO REACH CONSENSUS WILL LEAD TO COMPROMISES IN THIS AS IN OTHER AREAS OF THE CONFERENCE. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES WE STILL BELIEVE END RESULT WILL BE REASONABLY CLOSE TO EARLIER FRG IDEA OF PERIODIC MEETINGS OF SOMETHING LIKE THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE. AS POINTED OUT BY NORWEGIAN REP IN NATO SPC (USNATO 759), NUCLEUS OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT CAN ALREADY BE FOUND IN PAPER OF THE NINE, WHICH HAS PROVISION (PARA 21 OF GENEVA 694) FOR EVALUATION OF CSCE RESULTS DURING INTERIM PERIOD, TO BE "FACILITATED BY MEETINGS OF EXPERTS FROM PARTICIPATING STATES DEVOTED TO CERTAIN SPECIFIC POINTS." SINCE SOVIETS WILL NOT ACCEPT EVALUATION MEETINGS EXCLUSIVELY ON BASKET III AGREEMENTS, THIS LIMITED CONCEPT WILL HAVE TO BE BROADENED TO ATTRACT WIDER SUPPORT.

R. WE SUBMIT THE ABOVE COMMENTS AS CONTRIBUTION TO
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FORMULATION OF US POLICY LINE ON THIS SUBJECT, AND NOT NECESSARILY FOR USE WITH EC-NINE. OUR READING IS THAT NINE POSITION WILL NOT CHANGE UNTIL NEGOTIATING PRESSURES BUILD UP. MOST USEFUL US ROLE, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD THEREFORE BE TO RETAIN SOME FLEXIBILITY ON THIS ISSUE, WHILE IDENTIFYING POSSIBLE COMPROMISE SOLUTIONS WHICH MAY FIND GENERAL ACCEPTANCE AT THAT TIME.DALE

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